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Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9076
INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
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CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 6882

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, CH, JA
SUBJECT: SINO-JAPANESE RELATIONS: MORINAGA MEETS KU MU

SUMMARY. IN FIRST COMMENT ON SINO-JAPANESE PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP TREATY IN SIX MONTHS, VICE PREMIER KU MU AFFIRMED TO VISITING BANK OF JAPAN OFFICIAL PRC DESIRE FOR PACT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND ON BASIS OF CHOU/TANAKA COMMUNIQUE. CHINESE SAID DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN POLICIES UNCHANGED, INCLUDING GUIDELINES FOR MAJOR TRADE ITEMS LIKE STEEL AND OIL. KU STATEMENT PUTS JAPANESE BACK IN MIDDLE BETWEEN PEKING AND MOSCOW ENDING EXCUSE FOR INACTION ON TREATY AFFORDED BY OBVIOUS TURMOIL IN MAINLAND. END SUMMARY.

1. ON MAY 6 AT GREAT HALL OF PEOPLE IN PEKING, VICE PREMIER KU MU TOLD VISITING BANK OF JAPAN GOVERNOR MORINAGA THAT SINO-JAPANESE RELATIONS PROCEEDING SMOOTHLY AND THAT PRC LOOKING FORWARD TO EARLIEST POSSIBLE CONCLUSION OF PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP TREATY (PFT) WITH JAPAN. CHINA DIVDIR FUJITA TOLD US THAT AMBASSADOR
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OGAWA ALSO SAT IN ON MEETING AND REPORTED THAT KU DESCRIBED

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CHINESE DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN POLICIES AS UNCHANGED.
SPECIFICALLY, CHINESE POSITION REMAINS FIRM THAT PFT BE
BASED ON 1972 CHOU-TANAKA COMMUNIQUE (INCLUDING
ANTI-HEGEMONY CLAUSE, OF COURSE). KU ASKED MORINAGA TO
TELL HIS FIRENDS WHEN HE RETURNED TO JAPAN THAT CHINA
NOT IN TURMOIL AND SITUATION IN COUNTRY "EXCELLENT."

2. IN RESPONSE, MORINAGA TOLD KU HE NOT IN POSITION TO
ENTER INTO POLITICAL DIALOGUE, BUT THAT HIS PERSONAL
PREFERENCE WAS FOR SPEEDY CONCLUSION OF TREATY.

3. KU'S ASSURANCE THAT PRC POLICIES HAD NOT CHANGED
ALSO EXTENDED TO ECONOMIC SPHERE. HE DESCRIBED DROP
IN CHINESE STEEL IMPORTS DURING FIRST TWO QUARTERS AS
PASSING PHENOMENON BASED PRIMARILY ON MISUNDERSTANDING
OVER PRICE AND THE PERCENTAGE OF TRADE TO BE FINANCED
ON BASIS OF DEFERRED PAYMENTS. WHILE KU EMPHASIZED THAT
HE IN NO WAY BLAMING MORINAGA, JAPANESE SIDE HAD
CAUSED PROBLEM BY INCREASING AT LAST MINUTE PERCENTAGE
OF SALES TO BE COVERED AS CASH TRANSACTIONS. HE ASSURED
MORINAGA THAT TOTAL VOLUME OF STEEL IMPORTS FOR YEAR WOULD
"NOT BE LESS THAN LAST YEAR." AS FAR AS JAPANESE OIL
IMPORTS CONCERNED, THE 6-8 MILLION TON FIGURE PREVIOUSLY
AGREED TO WAS UPHELD BY BOTH KU AND MORINAGA.
MORINAGA ADDED THAT JAPANESE DOMESTIC DEMAND WAS
SLOWLY PICKING UP, AND THAT WHILE DRAMATIC IMPORT
INCREASES UNLIKELY, PROSPECT FOR STEADY MARKET
GROWTH SEEMED SOUND.

4. COMMENT. KU'S REMARKS ON PFT ARE FIRST
THAT CHINESE HAVE MADE ON PFT FOR SIX MONTHS. THEY
APPEAR DESIGNED TO ADDRESS COMMENTS MADE IN JANUARY
AND FEBRUARY BY GOJ SPOKESMAN THAT PFT STALLED BY
TURMOIL IN MAINLAND. AT THAT TIME, JAPANESE, FRESH
FROM A BUFFETTING BY GROMYKO, SEEMED RELIEVED THAT A
PLAUSIBLE REASON EXISTED FOR LEAVING TREATY ASIDE.
NOW THAT CHINESE HAVE REBUTTED RATIONALE, JAPANESE
ONCE AGAIN PLACED IN MIDDLE, A POSITION RENDERED IF
ANYTHING MORE UNCOMFORTABLE BY THE PRESENCE IN TOKYO AS
AMBASSADOR OF SOVIET HEAVYWEIGHT POLYANSKY.
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